

Translation

Department of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Indonesia
Centre of Communications

SECRET NEWS

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To : The Department of Foreign Affairs

Agenda No: 3420 /SAL

WASHINGTON 05/04

ANY REPLY TO THIS CABLE MUST ALSO BE SECRET
VERY URGENT

To : THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ATTENTION : DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS
SECRETARY-GENERAL
OI (INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS) DIRECTORATE

FOR INFORMATION AMERICAN DIRECTORATE

CHIEF OF BAIS - ABRI [Agency for Strategic Intelligence of the Indonesian
Armed Forces]
WATAPRI (? probably a senior embassy post) GENEVA
WATAPRI NEW YORK

From : The Indonesian ambassador

Number : 59/ws/04/91

Re : invitation to mr william treat, us expert on the sub-commission for the
prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities

with regard to our previous cable regarding the above matter, we herewith wish to convey the
following:

1. up to the present time, the embassy has not yet received any further information about
the planned invitation to several expert members of the sub-commission, including mr william
treat, to visit east timor before this year's sub-commission meeting.
2. if the aforesaid plan is not yet to be implemented in the near future, the embassy wishes
to advance the proposal to seek a separate invitation to mr william treat, as proposed by this
embassy in its letter 175/db/90 of 25 october 1990

3. the considerations for making such an invitation in the near future are as follows:

a. the said plan, which was conveyed through the intermediary of the defence attache, is known to and supported by bais, bearing in mind that the situation in east timor at present is such as to make foreign visits possible.

b. the position of mr william treat which is very helpful and advantageous to indonesia should continue to be fostered.

c. bearing in mind the proposal of watapri geneva to this embassy in its cable 74/gv/04/91 to arrange for an invitation for mr william treat before august 1991.

d. the said person's wish to visit east timor during the winter or spring which has not yet been realised should, it is felt, be realised before the forthcoming session of the sub-commission, so that the person in question will be able to report the results of his visit to the session.

e. it is anticipated that the report of the results of mr william treat's visit can assist the efforts of the embassy to repudiate accusations of human rights violations in east timor which continue to circulate in certain circles in the us.

f. so as not to overburden the department of foreign affairs at the centre, a ticket in the package visit of us congressional staff to indonesia in august 1991 will be reserved for mr treat.

4. if this proposal of the embassy is approved, it is suggested that the foreign ministry should host and handle arrangements for the said visit, including planning the itinerary, arranging for board and lodging, local transport and other necessities for the period that the person in question is in indonesia.

5. after getting the foreign ministry's approval, the embassy will contact the person in question in order to discuss the definitive date of the visit which, in our opinion, should best take place in july/august 1991, that is to say before the sub-commission's session begins.

6. bearing in mind the positive position of mr william treat up to the present, the embassy hopes that the foreign ministry leadership will consider this idea.

for your attention and directions.

[The three pages of the cable are written on cable-traffic notepaper. They each bear the rubber stamp of the embassy at the bottom, and, at the bottom of page three is the following:

Received on 06 - 04 - 1991, 11.15

Jakarta 06 - 04 - 1991, 12.35

Translation

Department of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Indonesia

Jakarta, 29 April 1991

Number : 350/IV/91/06

Appendix : 1 (one) item.

[Note from translator: the appendix was not attached to the copy received]

To : Commander of the IX/Udayana Regional Military Command in Denpasar

Subject : Invitation to William Treat, American expert on the UN Human Rights Sub-Commission, to visit East Timor.

For the attention of: Commander of the Command for Operational Implementation in East Timor

In connection with the above-mentioned subject, the following matters are respectfully drawn to your attention:

1. As is known, at the Meeting of the Sub-Commission for the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the UN, the question of East Timor is a focus of attention for the members, in view of accusations about the violation of Basic Human Rights in that Province. In an attempt to repudiate these accusations, some members of the Sub-Commission who support Indonesia suggested that several members of the Sub-Commission be invited to visit East Timor so as to see for themselves the situation there.

2. With the agreement of BAIS - ABRI [Strategic Intelligence Agency of the Indonesia Armed Forces] in its letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs R/3686/XI/1989/C dated 13 November 1989 (a copy of which is appended), it was initially intended that a visit to East Timor by several members of the aforesaid Sub-Commission should take place some time between July and September 1991. However, in view of several developments in the field, it was finally decided that for the time being, it would be better that we "go slow" [English original] regarding the planned visit until such time as the situation in the field makes it possible.

3. In this connection, William Treat, the expert-member of the Sub-Commission from the United States, who tenaciously supported the position of the Indonesian government on the question of East Timor at the 42nd session of the Sub-Commission in 1990, has expressed a desire to visit East Timor before the forthcoming 43rd session of the Sub-Commission in 1991. This request should be considered, bearing in mind the following factors:

a. William Treat's very positive and helpful attitude towards Indonesia at the Sub-Commission should be fostered.

b. In July 1991, before the Sub-Commission Session begins, the expert-members of the

Sub-Commission must be in Geneva to attend meetings of several Working Groups.

c. The improved conditions and situation in East Timor will reinforce the said person's attitude and it is anticipated that he will make a more positive report about East Timor to the 43rd Session of the Sub-Commission in August 1991. It is hoped that the report of the results of William Treat's visit will assist the efforts of Indonesian Embassies abroad and especially the Indonesian Embassy in Washington, to rebut accusations about human rights violations in East Timor.

d. In connection with the aforesaid, insofar as the situation in the field permits, it would in our opinion be best for William Treat's request to visit East Timor to be made possible some time in May or June 1991, in anticipation of the said visit assisting Indonesia's diplomatic struggle on international fora, particularly with regard to East Timor.

We would like to express our thanks for your attention and cooperation.

On behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Director-General for Social, Cultural and Information Affairs,

P. DAMANIK

Copies to:

1. Minister of Foreign Affairs (as a report)
2. Deputy head of BAIS ABRI
3. Governor of East Timor
4. Director General for Political Affairs.